

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

TRAVIS SHANE NORTHCUTT,

Plaintiff,

v.

SACRAMENTO SHERIFF'S  
DEPARTMENT, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:24-cv-2503-DJC-JDP (P)

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

On January 29, 2025, I screened plaintiff's complaint and notified him that all the claims could not proceed together. ECF No. 10. I ordered him to file, within thirty days, an amended complaint. *Id.* Plaintiff failed to timely file an amended complaint or otherwise to respond to the court order. Therefore, on March 18, 2025, I ordered plaintiff to show cause why this action should not be dismissed for his failure to prosecute and failure to comply with court orders. ECF No. 13. I notified plaintiff that if he wished to continue with this lawsuit, he must file an amended complaint. I also warned plaintiff that failure to comply with the March 18, 2025 order would result in a recommendation that this action be dismissed. *Id.* The deadline for plaintiff to file an amended complaint and response to the order to show cause has passed without word from plaintiff.

The court has the inherent power to control its docket and may, in the exercise of that power, impose sanctions where appropriate, including dismissal. *Bautista v. Los Angeles Cnty.*,

1 216 F.3d 837, 841 (9th Cir. 2000); *see* Local Rule 110 (“Failure of counsel or of a party to  
2 comply with these Rules or with any order of the Court may be grounds for imposition by the  
3 Court of any and all sanctions . . . within the inherent power of the Court.”).

4 A court may dismiss an action based on a party’s failure to prosecute an action, failure to  
5 obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. *See Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54  
6 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258,  
7 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal for failure to comply with an order to file an amended  
8 complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure to  
9 comply with local rule requiring pro se plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address); *Malone v.*  
10 *U.S. Postal Serv.*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (dismissal for failure to comply with court  
11 order); *Henderson v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (dismissal for lack of  
12 prosecution and failure to comply with local rules).

13 In recommending that this action be dismissed for failure to comply with court orders, I  
14 have considered “(1) the public’s interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court’s  
15 need to manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy  
16 favoring disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.”  
17 *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61 (citation omitted).

18 Here, plaintiff has failed to respond to court orders directing him to file an amended  
19 complaint. *See* ECF Nos. 10 & 13. Therefore, the public interest in expeditious resolution of  
20 litigation, the court’s need to manage its docket, and the risk of prejudice to the defendants all  
21 support imposition of the sanction of dismissal. Lastly, the court’s warning to plaintiff that  
22 failure to obey court orders will result in dismissal satisfies the “considerations of the  
23 alternatives” requirement.<sup>1</sup> *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779  
24 F.2d at 1424. Plaintiff had adequate warning that dismissal could result from his noncompliance.  
25 Accordingly, I find that the balance of factors weighs in favor of dismissal.

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27  
28 <sup>1</sup> The March 18, 2025 order expressly warned plaintiff that his failure to comply with  
court orders would result in dismissal. ECF No. 13.

Accordingly, it is hereby RECOMMENDED that:

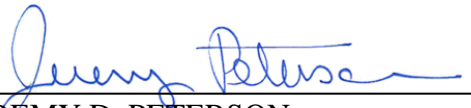
1. This action be DISMISSED without prejudice for failure to prosecute, failure to comply with court orders, and failure to state a claim for the reasons set forth in the January 29, 2025 order. *See* ECF No. 10.

2. The Clerk of Court be directed to close the case.

These findings and recommendations are submitted to the United States District Judge assigned to the case, pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). Within fourteen days of service of these findings and recommendations, any party may file written objections with the court and serve a copy on all parties. Any such document should be captioned “Objections to Magistrate Judge’s Findings and Recommendations,” and any response shall be served and filed within fourteen days of service of the objections. The parties are advised that failure to file objections within the specified time may waive the right to appeal the District Court’s order. *See Turner v. Duncan*, 158 F.3d 449, 455 (9th Cir. 1998); *Martinez v. Ylst*, 951 F.2d 1153 (9th Cir. 1991).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 17, 2025

  
JEREMY D. PETERSON  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE